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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS.

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CROP PROSPECTS.

Crop conditions in Norway improved during July but are still below the August 1 condition last year. The range of improvement was from 2 per cent for barley to 20 per cent for potatoes, according to a radiogram received August 3 by the United States Department of Agriculture from the Norwegian Department of Agriculture at Kristiania. The condition of the wheat crop on August 1 was 83 per cent of the ten year average compared with 77 per cent on July 1 and 93 per cent on August 1 last year. Rye was 97 per cent compared with 87 last month and 103 last year. The condition of oats was 74 compared with 71 last month and 93 last year. Barley was 76 compared with 74 last month and 97 last year. The condition of potatoes was 85 compared with 65 last month and 101 last year.

Acreage figures for Norway are not yet available for 1923.

Condition of the wheat crop in Western Canada remains generally favorable, according to a telegram received by the United States Department of Agriculture on August 3, from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. Some rust is reported which may cause a reduction in yields in certain sections but present conditions do not indicate wide-spread damage from this cause. This would not indicate any considerable change from the condition of the wheat crop at beginning of July, which was reported by the same authority at 106 per cent of the ten year average yield. Wheat harvest beginning in the first week of August will be general by the middle of the month.

Forecasts of wheat and rye production of Hungary for 1923 show increases of about 2,000,000 bushels for each crop, over the report of July 20 according to a cablegram received by the United States Department of Agriculture August 1 from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. The forecast of wheat is now 62,678,000 bushels as compared with 60,737,000 bushels estimated July 20 and 54,711,000 bushels the final estimate for 1922. The 1923 crop is nearly 8,000,000 bushels or 15 per cent greater than the crop harvested last year. The forecast of rye production is 29,416,000 bushels against 27,439,000 bushels reported on July 20 and 25,156,000 bushels the amount harvested in 1922. The increase of the 1923 forecast as compared with last year is 4,000,000 bushels or 17 per cent.

The 1923 French wheat crop is estimated unofficially in the French press at from 275,500,000 bushels to 305,000,000 bushels compared with last year's official estimate of 243,315,000 bushels according to a cable received on August 2 from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. No official estimate is yet available.

COTTON CROP IN EGYPT.

The cotton crop in Egypt has been benefited by heat and favorable weather since the end of May; nevertheless, in the majority of the districts growth is irregular and crops are backward. Prospects are more favorable in Upper than in Lower Egypt. Water-supply during June was ample. Boll-worm attacks were general but the crop has not suffered up to the present. Mild attacks of "wilt" are reported from certain districts of Lower Egypt and from Minya. The bersim worm and aphis were also reported in some localities of Lower Egypt, but these caused no serious damage. Source: International Crop Report and Agricultural Statistics, July 1923.

FRANCE ENCOURAGES COLONIAL COTTON PRODUCTION.

The Syndicat General Cotonnier, an association representing eighty per cent of French cotton spinners, has recently agreed to contribute one franc per bale of cotton consumed (about 600,000 francs per year) to the Colonial Cotton Association to further colonial production. In addition, the State will make contributions amounting to 2,000,000 francs during the next five years for the same purpose, the funds to be taken from the profits realized during the war by the French Cotton Consortium. Havre commercial associations welcome these subventions as an aid toward the restoration of Havre to its old time prominence as an European cotton port. Source: Report, Vice Consul Davis B. Levis, Havre, France, July 3, 1923.

NEW COTTON AREA IN MEXICO.

Cultivation of cotton has been undertaken in a new section, Hidalgo, Mexico, comprising 247,100 acres of land. Twenty-five tons of selected seed has been imported from the United States. The land is fertile and can be irrigated from the waters of the Metztitlan River. However, there is danger of overflow of the river during the rainy season. Another obstacle in the way of success for the project is lack of means of transportation. Source: Report, Consul George T. Summerlin, Mexico, July 18, 1923.

AUSTRALIA'S PROGRESS IN COTTON GROWING.

In twelve months the number of cotton growers in Australia had increased from 2,000 to 15,000. It has been estimated that next year there would be more than 20,000 cotton growers in Queensland and that the area under cotton would increase from 70,000 acres planted this year to at least 150,000 acres. Source: International Cotton Bulletin, June 1923.

MILK PRODUCTION IN SWITZERLAND, 1866 TO 1922.

Year.	Number of cows.	Number of milk goats.	Milk production. Gallons.	Average year- ly yield per cow.	Average year- ly yield per goat.
1866	553,205	250,322	324,824,000	564	51
1876	592,413	264,000	362,823,000	590	51
1886	663,102	277,548	425,752,000	615	64
1896	668,052	277,212	447,678,000	641	70
1906	785,577	239,942	563,414,000	692	82
1916	849,011	254,369	656,253,000	741	100
1921	746,591	239,863	578,067,000	756	97
1922	615,237,000

According to the Central Union of Swiss Milk Producers, the utilization of milk was:

Use.	1921. Per Cent.	1922. Per Cent.
Sold for consumption	26.0	25.9
Used by producers	15.8	15.6
Used for raising and fattening	19.1	15.2
Technically utilized (for cheese, chocolate, etc.)	39.1	43.3

According to different authorities, there is ordinarily used:

Use.	Per Cent.
For direct consumption	40 to 47
For raising and fattening	15 to 19
For technical purposes	39 to 43

Source: Schweizerische Volksbank April 1923, Die Schweizerische Milchwirtschaft.

MILK PRODUCTION IN ENGLAND AND WALES 1907-08, AVERAGE 1909-13, 1914, 1921 AND 1922.

England and Wales	Number of cows in milk on June 4.	Average yield per cow in milk on June 4.	Total milk production.
	Number.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1907-08	1,831,000	550	1,007,000,000
Average 1909-13 ..	1,830,000	560	1,025,000,000
1914	1,908,000	575	1,097,000,000
1921	1,876,000	550	1,032,000,000
1922	1,934,000	575	1,112,000,000

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Agricultural Statistics 1922, Vol. LVII, Part II, page 64.

BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Year ending April 30.	Butter.		Cheese.	
	Factory.	Farm.	Factory.	Farm.
	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
1910-11 ^a	5,190,514	6,158,779	225,309	319,981
1917-18	12,014,229	8,679,100	4,277,227	1,745,500
1918-19	13,732,776	7,960,660	5,152,830	366,410
1919-20	10,864,464	6,944,823	3,782,065	272,222
1920-21	11,517,533	7,445,540	4,346,624	272,090

^a. Census.

Source: Official Yearbook of South Africa 1920, page 518, Year 1921 Agricultural Census 1921, page 8. Sixth Industrial Census 1922, page 42.

NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK IN SPAIN 1913, 1921 AND 1922.

Livestock.	Census 1913.	Census 1921.	1922.
Cattle	2,879,000	3,718,000	3,297,000
Swine	2,710,000	5,152,000	4,229,000
Sheep	16,441,000	20,522,000	19,377,000
Goats	3,394,000	4,298,000	3,971,000
Horses	526,000	722,000	594,000
Mules	948,000	1,295,000	1,069,000
Asses	849,000	1,138,000	1,014,000

Source: Anuario Estadístico de España 1915, p. 109; 1920 - Pub. 1922.
 Telegram from the International Institute of Agriculture received
 July 23, 1923.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK IN AUSTRALIA 1913, 1920-22.

	Cattle.	Swine.	Sheep.	Horses.
December 31	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1913	11,484	801	85,057	2,522
1920	13,500	764	77,898	2,416
1921	14,530	960	82,226	2,438
1922	<u>a</u> 13,237	...	<u>a</u> 80,000

a. Estimate published in the Sydney Stock and Station Journal, May 15, 1923, page 5.

Source: Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics, March 1923, page 11.

PRODUCTION OF RICE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, 1923.

The production of rice in the Philippine Islands for the crop year ending June 30, 1923, is 2,702,835,000 pounds of cleaned rice compared with 2,681,303,000 pounds in 1922. According to the Bureau of Agriculture, this will not be enough to meet the domestic demand for the coming year, inasmuch as the estimated requirements are 2,801,533,000 pounds. There is an estimated carryover on May 31, 1923, of 1,300,857,000 pounds, but transportation facilities are so poor that much of this cannot reach consuming centers.

Source: Government of the Philippine Islands, Bureau of Agriculture, mimeograph sheet, dated June 29, 1923.

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